

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-53. (Canceled)

54. (Currently Amended) A method for delivering a bifurcated endoluminal stent or prosthesis having a proximal portion ~~[[an]]~~ and a first distal portion into ~~[[the]]~~ vasculature at an aneological bifurcation where blood vessel branches into a first branched vessel and a second branched vessel, said method comprising the ~~steps of:~~

[[a))] inserting a first introducer containing said stent or prosthesis into the vasculature to a predetermined delivery location, said first introducer comprising an outer sheath, a proximal portion pusher, and a distal portion pusher;

[[b))] withdrawing said outer sheath of said first introducer while maintaining said proximal portion pusher in a fixed position until said proximal portion of said stent or prosthesis is deployed from said first introducer into said blood vessel;

[[c))] withdrawing said outer sheath and said proximal portion pusher while maintaining said distal portion pusher in a fixed position until said first distal portion of said stent or prosthesis is deployed from said first introducer at least partially into said first branched vessel; and

[[d))] withdrawing said first introducer from the vasculature.

55-58. (Canceled)

59. (Currently Amended) A bifurcated prosthesis for use near an angeological bifurcation of a blood vessel into two branched vessels comprising:

a bifurcated stent having a bifurcated proximal stent portion adapted to be disposed within said blood vessel, a first distal stent portion adapted to extend across the bifurcation into one of the branched vessels, and a second distal stent portion shorter than said first distal stent portion and configured to be disposed entirely within said blood vessel, wherein the second distal stent comprises a distal orifice at a distal end of a tapering portion which when expanded serves to receive a male engaging portion having a frustoconical configuration of an additional stent completely within a female engaging portion of the distal orifice; and

a graft layer formed from a bio-compatible fabric disposed in juxtaposition with said bifurcated stent.

60-61. (Canceled)

62. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ method as claimed in claim 54 further comprising ~~the step of~~ attaching to said proximal portion a second distal portion that extends into said second branched vessel.

63. (Currently Amended) A method for delivering a stent to an angeological bifurcation of a vessel into two branched vessels comprising ~~the steps of~~:

~~[[a)]]~~ placing in the vessel a first bifurcated stent having at least one leg disposed entirely within the vessel, the bifurcated stent also having at least one distal orifice at a distal end of a tapering portion of the at least one leg which when expanded serves to receive a male engaging portion having a frustoconical configuration of a second stent completely within a female engaging portion of the distal orifice; and

[[b)]] attaching to said leg disposed entirely within the vessel [[a]] the second stent that extends into one of the two branched vessels.

64. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method as claimed in claim 63 wherein said ~~step of~~ placing the first bifurcated stent further comprises extending a leg of the first bifurcated stent into one of the two branched vessels.

65-66. (Canceled)

67. (Currently Amended) A bifurcated stent assembly having an assembly bifurcation for use with an ~~angiological~~ angeological bifurcation of a blood vessel into two branched vessels, said bifurcated stent assembly comprising:

a first bifurcated stent comprising a proximal stent portion and two intermediate stent portions extending distally relative to said assembly bifurcation, wherein at least one of the intermediate stent portions has a distal orifice at a distal end of a tapering portion which when expanded serves to receive a male engaging portion having a frustoconical configuration of at least one second stent completely within a female engaging portion of the distal orifice; and

[[a]] the at least one second stent joined to at least one of said intermediate stent portions distal orifices of said first bifurcated stent and adapted to allow blood to flow from the proximal stent portion of said first bifurcated stent into one of said branched vessels.

68. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] bifurcated prosthesis as claimed in claim 59 further comprising [[an]] said additional stent mated to said second distal stent portion, said additional stent having a graft layer formed from a bio-compatible fabric disposed in juxtaposition with it and adapted to allow blood to flow from the bifurcated proximal stent portion into the other branched vessel.